

REGULAR SESSION RUSH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS DECEMBER 15, 2014

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Monday, December 15, 2014 with Commissioners Bruce Levi, Mark Bacon, Ken Masters, Mary Ann Beard Auditor and Attorney Leigh Morning in attendance.

Commissioner Bruce Levi called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes of the December 1st meeting were approved on a motion by Ken Masters with a second by Mark Bacon.

AUDITOR

The Auditor asked that the Commissioners act on the payroll and claims docket to expedite the process due to the holiday schedule.

Payroll was approved on a motion by Mark Bacon and seconded by Ken Masters.

Claims were approved with Ken Masters making the motion. Mark Bacon seconded the motion.

EXTENSION

Extension Agent Kristi Amos was questioned about a letter received from the 4-H horse park regarding the mowing of their leased ground. Mark Bacon moved to table the issue until further information may be attained. Ken Masters seconded the action.

Mrs. Amos presented the contract for the Purdue Extension Agents. Ken Masters made the motion to sign the contract. Mark Bacon seconded the motion.

TREASURER

Treasurer Cindy Humphrey presented the monthly report and an ordinance allowing electronic billing of tax bills using e-mail. Ken Masters moved to approve the ordinance with Mark Bacon seconding the motion. Motion carried.

AREA PLAN

Rhea Dawn Buckley director of the Area Plan reported that an ordinance to amend the Rush County Zoning ordinance is due by January 7th. Due to the time restraints, a public hearing of the County Commissioners will be held on Tuesday, January 6th at 9:00a.m.

BARKING DOG ORDINANCE

After review of Ordinance #2000-1 regarding habitually noisy dogs and cats, the Commissioners voted to repeal the ordinance at their last meeting. The following ordinance was signed to complete the official action.

ANNUAL BIDS

The annual bids were opened at 9:30a.m. The only fuel bid for the Highway and the Sheriff's department was from Harvest Land Co-op. Mark Bacon moved to accept the fuel bid. Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Gravel bids were received from Shelby Materials and CGS. Mark Bacon moved to accept both bids. Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Bids for crushed stone were received from Rush County Stone, Derbyshire Stone and St. Paul Stone.

Liquid Asphalt bids were received from Asphalt Materials, MAP and Terry Industries. Ken Masters moved accept the lowest bid from Asphalt Materials. Mark Bacon seconded the motion. Motion carried.

MAYOR

Mayor Mike Pavey was present to explain the drainage problem on the north side of the Blue Ribbon Estates. To remedy the problem, the City and the County will construct a retention pond at a cost of \$28,000 and \$26,000 respectfully. Property owners Vision shall contribute the land, and Berean will pay the design fees. An application will be made to establish the retention system as a legal drain to provide future maintenance. The City and the County will also pay a fee of \$5,000 each which will be returned at a later date. Mark Bacon moved to establish the watershed. Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ECDC

ECDC executive director John McCane requested the Commissioners support to classify a proposed road known as East Foster Heights Road as a major collector and to reclassify West Foster Heights Road as major collector from North Spencer Street east to State Road 3. Mark Bacon moved to sign the letter of support. Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

McCane also shared the news that Rush County led the state in per capita growth for 2013 and that Rush County's unemployment rate is down to 4.4%.

A word of thanks was offered by Mr. McCane to Ken Masters for his service on the ECDC board.

Mark Bacon called for a recess to conduct the advertised 10:00a.m. Drainage Board meeting. Ken Masters seconded the motion.

The meeting was reconvened at 11:15a.m. by Commissioner Bruce Levi.

HIGHWAY

Highway Superintendent Jerry Sitton submitted his monthly report and reported that Carthage Pike is progressing on schedule.

SHERIFF

Sheriff Jeff Sherwood reported the inmate count to be the lowest in 8 years at 22. One of the heat exchangers at the jail has cracked and the cost of repair is estimated at \$4,925. Ken Masters moved to allow the repair. Mark Bacon seconded the motion. Motion carried. Chief Deputy Terry Drake requested the Commissioners retire the side arm for outgoing Sheriff Jeff Sherwood and that the gun be presented to him for his years of service. Ken Masters moved to grant the request. Mark Bacon seconded the motion. Motion carried.

COURTHOUSE SECURITY

Jeff Sherwood stated that 2 applications were received for Courthouse Security and there may be a 3rd. The responsibilities will be established by Judge Hill but under the Sheriff's jurisdiction.

RUSH/SHELBY ENERGY BUILDING

Commissioner Bruce Levi updated the board on the purchase of the Rush/Shelby Energy building. Two appraisals have been attained and the appraisal amounts were \$192,500 and \$196,000. The asking price of the building is \$150,000. Several offices are currently being rented and Rush County Community Corrections has shown interest in rental space. Ken Masters moved to proceed with the purchase and Mark Bacon seconded the motion. Motion carried.

SHERIFF'S CONTRACT

Sheriff elect Jim Cowan was present to sign the Sheriff's contract. The sheriff will receive the amount in the 2015 budget for four years. That pay will be adjusted to abide by state statute to reflect one-half of the prosecutor's salary. Mark Bacon moved to sign the contract. Ken Masters seconded the action. Motion carried. Mr. Cowan also signed the contract.

ATTORNEY

Attorney Leigh Morning presented the 2015 Capital Improvement Plan. Mark Bacon moved to adopt the plan with Ken Masters seconding the motion. Motion carried.

Morning has prepared contracts for the County Emergency Ambulance services. The Commissioners instructed Ms. Morning to provide copies to each of the providers and they will be addressed at the next meeting.

APPOINTMENTS

N & S Services were appointed as lawn care providers for the courthouse on a motion by Mark Bacon and a second from Ken Masters.

Chuck Kemker was reappointed as EMA director. Mark Bacon moved to approve the appointment. Ken Masters seconded the motion.

AUDITOR

The juvenile detention contract with YOC was signed on a motion by Mark Bacon and seconded by Ken Masters. Motion carried.

The disaster recovery contract with Komputrol Financials was signed. Ken Masters moved to sign with Mark Bacon offering a second.

Auditor Mary Ann Beard presented nepotism forms signed by each office holder and director. Mark Bacon moved to receive the forms according to statute. Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

EMS reports were received from Anderson Twp Fire Department and Raleigh Fire Department.

Mark Bacon moved to adjourn. Ken Masters offered a second. Motion carried.

/s/ Bruce Levi
Bruce Levi, Chairman

/s/ Mark Bacon
Mark Bacon

/s/ Ken Masters
Ken Masters

ATTEST:

/s/ Mary Ann Beard
Mary Ann Beard, Auditor